



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Roxane Marquez at (213) 974-4111 (office)
or (213) 598-5463 (cellular)

GLORIA MOLINA ANNOUNCES FREE CANVAS BAG GIVEAWAYS THROUGHOUT L.A. COUNTY

Plastic Bag Ban Goes Into Effect in Unincorporated Areas on July 1

LOS ANGELES (June 3, 2011)—Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina is advising shoppers to take advantage of the county's canvas bag giveaway throughout the month of June.

"Starting July 1st, free carryout plastic bags will be history in all unincorporated area stores," Molina said. "To help make the transition easier for consumers, we're giving away hundreds of free canvas bags at participating supermarkets across Los Angeles County on a first-come, first-served basis. It's our way of encouraging everyone to do what's right for the environment."

Staff from the county's Department of Public Works will be on-hand to disseminate canvas bags (and will be available for media interviews on-site) from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the following locations:

Mon., June 6: **Howie's Ranch Market** – 6580 N. San Gabriel Blvd., East San Gabriel, CA 91775

Mon., June 6: **Top Valu** – 4831 Whittier Blvd., East Los Angeles, CA 90022

Wed., June 8: **El Super** – 1301 E. Gage Ave., Florence-Firestone, CA 90001

Wed., June 8: **Ralphs** – 2675 Foothill Blvd, La Crescenta, CA 90059

Thurs., June 9: **Ralphs** – 29675 The Old Rd., Castaic, CA 91384

Thurs., June 9: **Ralphs** – 31970 Castaic Rd., Castaic, CA 91384

Fri., June 10: **Greenland Market** – 18901 Colima Rd., Rowland Heights, CA 91748

Fri., June 10: **Stater Bros.** – 14212 Mulberry Dr., South Whittier, CA 90604

Fri., June 10: **Stater Bros.** – 19756 Colima Rd., Rowland Heights, CA 91748

Mon., June 13: **Howe's Market** – 3035 Huntington Dr., East Pasadena, CA 91107

Mon., June 13: **Rite Aid** – 18993 Colima Rd., Rowland Heights, CA 91748

Tues., June 14: **Rite Aid** – 2060 S. Hacienda Blvd., Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

Wed., June 15: **Bestway** – 19050 E. La Puente Rd., Valinda, CA 91792

Wed., June 15: **El Super** – 3405 César E. Chávez Ave., East Los Angeles, CA 90063

—More—

Gloria Molina Announces Free Canvas Bag Giveaways throughout L.A. County, p. 2

Thurs., June 16: **Ralphs** – 24975 Pico Canyon Rd., Stevenson Ranch, CA 91381

Fri., June 17: **99 Ranch Market** – 1015 S. Nogales St., Rowland Heights, CA 91748

Fri., June 17: **Ralphs** – 520 Workman Mill Rd., Valinda, CA 91746

Fri., June 17: **Ralphs** – 5245 W. Centinela Ave., Ladera Heights, CA 90045

Tues., June 21: **Ralphs** – 4700 Admiralty Way, Marina Del Rey, CA 90292

Wed., June 22: **Ralphs** – 2270 N. Lake Ave., Altadena, CA 91001

Wed., June 22: **Superking** – 2260 N. Lincoln Ave., Altadena, CA 91001

Fri., June 24: **99 Ranch Market** – 1625 S. Azusa Ave., Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

Fri., June 24: **Albertsons** – 23850 Copper Hill Rd., Saugus, CA 91354

Fri., June 24: **Albertsons** – 26850 The Old Road, Stevenson Ranch, CA 91381

Fri., June 24: **Galleria Market** – 18317 Colima Rd., Rowland Heights, CA 91748

Mon., June 27: **TS Emporium** – 1457 Nogales St., Rowland Heights, CA 91748

Wed., June 29: **Albertsons** – 17120 Colima Rd., Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

Wed., June 29: **Albertsons** – 19725 Colima Rd., Hacienda Heights, CA 91748

Beginning on Fri., July 1, 2011, shoppers will need to bring reusable bags when they shop in unincorporated areas to avoid a 10 cent charge for paper bags. For more information, visit www.aboutthebag.com or call (888) CLEANLA.

Molina's free canvas bag giveaway marks the conclusion of her two year-long Green Bag for a Clean Earth campaign to promote reusable bag use throughout the First Supervisorial District. It started in the Summer of 2009, when she enlisted over 1,450 Florence-Firestone students as "Earth Defenders" to reduce their families' use of plastic bags—which notoriously pollute county waterways and overload landfills. Students received "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle" prize cards. Those who amassed the most stickers on it over a two-month period each time they or their parent shopped with a canvas bag instead of a plastic bag at local participating stores received prizes—as did teachers representing classrooms with the top prize card utilization rate. By the end of the summer, Florence-Firestone students prevented approximately 4,000 plastic bags from heading straight to the garbage, landfills, and rivers.

—More—

In the Fall of 2009, Molina then enlisted over 3,800 Valinda students as Earth Defenders. They saved close to 7,000 plastic bags from the trash. In the Spring of 2010, over 4,000 East L.A. students joined the cause and prevented 7,523 from being used.

“I am so proud of our First District unincorporated youth for preventing 18,523 plastic bags from filling county landfills and clogging our waterways,” Molina said. “They understand the importance of protecting our environment and they’ve seen what a difference they can make.”

Photos of Molina’s “Green Bag for a Clean Earth” campaign launches in Florence-Firestone, Valinda, and East Los Angeles can be found on her website at molina.lacounty.gov.

###